Long Term Care Ombudsman Report Orangeburg Nursing Home

October- November 2007

The Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman continues to monitor the care and services provided by Orangeburg Nursing Home located at 755 Whitman Street, SE; Orangeburg, SC. Visits were made to the facility on the following days:

Monday, October 15, 2007; 2:25-2:51 pm Monday, October 29, 2007; 1:30-3:20 pm Thursday, November 15, 2007; 2:45- 4:15 pm Wednesday, November 21, 2007; 2:20- 2:50pm

In addition to the above noted on-site visits, there were three telephone consultations with staff and State LTC Ombudsman staff to follow up on a report of an incident between two female residents that happened in early October 2007. In this incident, a female resident pushed another female resident. After the LTC Ombudsman learned of the interventions in place to address the resident's behavior and other residents' safety, no additional action was warranted. The case was under review by the Orangeburg Department of Public Safety only because of the complaint filed by the victim's family. Resident to resident altercations are not defined as abuse; however the LTC Ombudsman did verify that staff took appropriate actions to address care needs of both the resident victim and resident perpetrator. With the exception of this incident, no complaints or issues were reported to the Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman during this two month review period.

The staff continue to meet the physical and emotional needs of the residents in a professional and compassionate manner. No staff reports a lack of supplies to meet the needs of the residents.

During the facility visit on Monday, October 29, 2007, the Regional LTC Ombudsman gave a presentation about the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program and Resident Rights to those residents attending the Residents' Council meeting. Brochures and large print handouts about rights were provided to all in attendance. Copies were left with the Activity Director for future use and distribution.

During this two month review period, the Activity Director resigned her position. Mr. Johnson's last day was November 23, 2007. The Administrator reports that there are candidates being interviewed for the position. The corporate owner desires for there to be more diverse activities during the week. Mrs. Martin cited the recently added morning coffee club as an example of a new activity catering to the wishes of the residents. Each morning, coffee is available in the dining room for early risers to gather and chat while waiting for breakfast to be served. In the past, coffee was not available until breakfast trays were delivered. Mrs. Martin reports this coffee club time as an opportunity for her to visit with residents at a time when the dining room is not too loud or distracting. She also noted that residents attended a SC State University football game this season and a group goes to the Council on Aging Senior Center for activities and a meal twice per week. Such activities are keeping the residents connected with their community and outside interests.

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Total Time spent on site: 4 hours, 30 minutes

Total time in travel: 10 hours

Total miles traveled: 536 miles (three visits at 134 miles each)

Total time on ONH: 16 hours (including consult and report prep time)

/Susan Garen/